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Japanese Photographers
All kinds of photographic
work done in latest styles
also Passport Photos.
Developing and Printing for
Amateurs a Speciality.
No. 24, Queen's Road Central.
Tel. 254.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

"Count the
Indians
on
the road."
ALEX. ROSS & CO.
Machinery
Department.

No 17,159.

號七十月五年八十壹百九千壹英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1918.

午戌次歲年七國民華中

PRICE \$3.00 Per Month.

THORNE'S
OLD VAT
No. 4.
SCOTCH WHISKY.
—OF—
SOLE AGENTS.

A.S. WATSON & Co. Ltd
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
HONGKONG.
Tel. 616.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN OR ASIATIC
INDIAN desiring to leave the
Colony should apply in person at the
Central Police Station between the hours
of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
daily.
Applicants will be required to produce
Passports or identification papers. All
persons, with certain exceptions, who
remain in the Colony for more than
7 days are required to register them-
selves under the REGISTRATION OF
PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms
of Registration giving the particulars
required may be obtained at the G.P.O.
and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a
fine not exceeding \$50.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
INSURANCE CO.,
WHICH ARE THE SHARERS OF
THE OCEAN MARINE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LTD.,
and
THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS
ASSURANCE CO.

TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1914.
£23,970,367.
I—Authorized Capital £2,000,000
Subscribed Capital £4,500,000
Paid-up Capital £2,437,500
II—Fire Fund £3,837,047
III—Life & Annuity Funds £17,567,590
Sinking Fund Account £23,230
£23,970,367
Revenue Fire Branch £2,381,458
Life and Annuity £2,141,593
Revenue Marine Department £37,239
Other Receipts £78,940
£5,339,228

The Accumulative Funds of the various
Branches are separately invested, and, by
Act of Parliament, are set aside to meet
the claims under the respective Depart-
ments of the Company's Business.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY,
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS
7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m., Every 15 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m., Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m., Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m., Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m., Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m., Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m., Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS
8.50 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.30 p.m. to 11.00
p.m., every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m., every quarter of
an hour.

SUNDAYS
7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m., Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m., Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.
8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., Every 15 minutes.
8.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SPECIAL CARS BY ARRANGEMENT AT THE
Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDING,
Des Voeux Road Central.
Season and punch tickets available for
all cars not already full running at the
time stated in the Company's time tables,
but not for special cars, can be obtained
on application at the Company's Office.
No season ticket will be issued until
payment therefor has been made in Bank
Notes or by Cheques or Comproadors order
representing Bank Notes.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

TANG EUK, Director, successor of
the late SIEN KING.
14, D'ARQUILLA STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE
Consolidation Free

BUSINESS NOTICES.
W. S. BAILEY & CO., LTD.
ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS.
KOWLOON BAY.

Steam and Motor Vessels,
Steel Building Work of every Description,
Castings, Forgings, Repairs and Supplies.

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO
STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT
CO., LTD. AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.
Sailings:—To Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 10 p.m.
From Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 4 p.m.
SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.
HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.
Sailings:—To Macao daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays 9 a.m.) and
2 p.m. (Sundays 1 p.m.)
From Macao daily at 7.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays 3 p.m.)
Further information may be obtained at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, Hotel Mansions,
or from Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son, Booking Agents, Hongkong.



WATSON'S
OLD
BROWN BRANDY
25 YEARS IN WOOD.
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
HONGKONG.
TELEPHONE No. 616.

A PREVENTIVE OF MALARIA
MOSCATINE.

The infallible Insect Repeller.
Delicious Perfume. Perfectly Harmless.
PRICE 50 cts., \$1.00, \$2.50 PER BOTTLE.

PREPARED ONLY BY THE
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
33, Queen's Road Central.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING Co., Ltd.
Established 1883
MANUFACTURERS OF

PURE Manila ROPE

STRAND 1" to 18" CIRCUMFERENCE
CABLE LAY 5" to 15" CIRCUMFERENCE
4-STRAND 3" to 10" CIRCUMFERENCE

Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 3,000 feet in length
Prices, samples and full particulars will be forwarded on application to
Shewan, Tomes & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, April 11, 1918.

THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

(NOW RECONSTRUCTED)

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS. BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON
FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have
over thirty years' experience. We can two Bilgys and can accommodate any craft
of 250 feet long.
Days Office, 48, CORNHILL ROAD, HONGKONG. Telephone No. 480.
Shipping Office, 8th Fl., Kowloon, Hongkong. Telephone No. 127.
Estimated furnished on application.
WONG PING WA, Manager.
Hongkong, April 11, 1918.

BUSINESS NOTICES

TAIKOO DOCKYARD.
BUILDERS OF SHIPS & ENGINES.
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
—THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY—
—OF HONGKONG LTD.—
AGENTS:
—TELEGRAPHIC ADD.— BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
—TAIKOO DOCKYARD— TELEPHONE No. 212

YEE SANG FAT CO.
Just Arrived

RAIN COATS

Waterproof Guaranteed

ALSO

UMBRELLAS

AND

Gent's Waterproof

BROWN BOOTS

at \$15.00 Pair.

YEE SANG FAT CO.,

34, Queen's Road Central.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD.

PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 375 lbs. net.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

GENERAL MANAGERS.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL
AND
GRILL ROOM

J. H. TAGGART
MANAGER.

THE PEAK HOTEL.

1,500 Feet above Sea Level.

15 Minutes from Landing Stage.

Under the Management of

Mrs. BLAIR

THE WAR.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

THE GREAT BRITISH
MINEFIELD.

AN INSURMOUNTABLE BARRIER TO
ENEMY SUBMARINES.

NORTH SEA PRACTICALLY
CLOSED.

London, May 15.
The great British mine-field, opera-
tions from to-day are likely to prove
an insurmountable barrier to enemy
submarine activities in British
waters.
The new area covers 22,000 square
miles, and is the most extensive ever
laid. It stretches from the Scottish
coast to the Norwegian coast. The outlet
to the ocean on the Scottish side, is
patrolled and guarded in the most
stringent manner.

The Admiralty has further notified
other new mine-fields and also the
closing of the Pentland Firth. The
North Sea is now practically closed.

SUBMARINE WARFARE.

INTERESTING QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS IN PARLIAMENT.

London, May 15.
In the House of Commons, Mr.
Houston asked for information re-
garding "one of the successful
operations in capturing and destroy-
ing enemy submarines round our
coasts during the past three weeks."
Mr. Macnamara replied that the
general trend of the submarine war-
fare had progressed quite satisfac-
torily since January 1st. News
from neutral countries and the in-
creased boastfulness and public dis-
claimers of the enemy proved our
recent success, but the Admiralty
was averse to stating the results of
a short period, whether good or bad.
Replying to a further question,
Mr. Macnamara stated that from
January 1st to April 30th, 172 British
steamers escaped uninjured from
attacks by enemy submarines.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

THE QUESTION OF THEIR
EXCHANGE.

London, May 14.
In the House of Lords, Lord
Barnham pleaded that steps should
be taken for the exchange of British
non-commissioned officers and men
captured in 1914 and 1915, especially
in view of the fact that France and
Germany had agreed to an exchange
of war prisoners of over eighteen
months.

Lord Newton, replying, said the
Government had deliberated upon
the policy. Hitherto the policy had
been to refuse to exchange able-
bodied combatants, because the more
they exchanged prisoners the more
they prolonged the war. The Govern-
ment thought that if such an ex-
change was agreed to it would lead
to the Allied Governments doing the
same, with the result that there
would be an enormous exchange, as
exemplified between Russia and
Germany. The Government of
France had adopted the British
policy and it was a surprise to find
that a Franco-German agreement of
a very far-reaching character had
been ratified. He believed that the
agreement involved military and
civilian prisoners numbering alto-
gether 880,000 on both sides. The
whole situation had been thereby
altered. He was therefore author-
ised to state that the Government
is prepared to reconsider the ques-
tion of exchange as now.

If an
Anglo-German agreement could be
reached for exchanging combatants
and civilians in captivity for three
years it would not be a bad bargain
for us, because the numbers were
approximately equal.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

VIGOROUS AND SUCCESSFUL
FRENCH ATTACK.

London, May 15.
A French communiqué reports
intermittent bombardment in the
Grivens sector.

Enemy assemblages and convoys
in the region of Montdidier and the
Noyon-Guise road were dispersed.

LATER.
A French communiqué states:—
There was a violent bombardment
at night time in the region north of
Montdidier, and between Montdidier
and Noyon.

We yesterday evening vigorously
attacked south of Noyon and seized a
wood on the west bank of the Aisne,
despite obstinate enemy resistance.
A strong German counter-attack this
morning led to a lively fight. We
entirely maintained our gains, took
70 prisoners and inflicted very
serious losses on the enemy.

A German attempt south of Reilly,
after a lively bombardment, was also
completely defeated.

AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig,
reporting on aviation, says:—
"Only a few hours' flying was pos-
sible on Monday, but a great deal of
work was done. Five hundred bombs
were dropped on various targets.
We brought down two enemy
machines. No British machines are
missing."

ACTIVITY ALONG THE FRONT.

London, May 15.
Reuter's Correspondent at British
Headquarters, telegraphing to-day,
states:—

Much local artillery activity is
reported from various parts of the
battle-front. During the night there
has been gas-shelling in the Flanders
and Somme areas, accompanied by
a harassing fire against the front near
Wietje, near Dikbusch lake,
around Hinger and St. Laurent
Blangy, against Villers-Bretonneux,
Corbie and Vaute-sut-Somme.

A fresh westerly wind is blowing
across the battle-fields.
The only infantry fighting in which
the British have been engaged has
been a minor brush south-west of
Ridge Wood. The French at Hill
44 were heavily shelled during the
night. The position there is some-
what obscure.

Enemy airmen are unusually active
in Flanders.

AUSTRIANS PREPARING FOR AN
OFFENSIVE.

Rome, May 15.

Daily aerial scouting and also ad-
missions by Austrian prisoners con-
firm that the Austrians are massing
great numbers of troops and artillery
in the Alps and the Friuli plains,
working chiefly by night in order to
conceal their activity. Enemy air-
craft have recently increased, but
the Anglo-Italian airmen are still in
every way superior.

EMPEROR KARL GOING TO SOFIA
AND CONSTANTINOPLE.

AMSTERDAM, May 15.
A telegram from Vienna states that
the Emperor Karl is shortly proceed-
ing to Sofia and Constantinople.

GENERAL MAURICE BECOMES A
PRESS CORRESPONDENT.

London, May 15.
Major-General Maurice has been
appointed Military Correspondent of
the Daily Chronicle.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
Four roomed houses in Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE
CO., LTD.
Alexandra Buildings
HONGKONG August 22, 1917.

Interest allowed on Current Account,
Fixed Deposits, and Savings Deposits
at rates which will be quoted on
application.

N. YAMAGITA
Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH
2, Des Vaux Road,
Hongkong, May 1, 1918

380

OF ALL CHEMISTS

Prices: \$1.25 and \$2.25

He will child sleeps well and during its
waking hours is never uneasy but always
happy and laughing. It is only the
young child that is cross and peevish.
There if your children do not sleep
well, if they are cross and cry a great
deal, if they are nervous, fretful, if
they are sickly, if they are ill, if they
are children's remedy, the Tablets
will soon be well and happy again.
Concerning the Tablets Mrs. Chas.
A. North, Kennebec, Quebec,
Canada, writes: "I was greatly troubled
by a constipation and at night and
in the morning I began getting her
Teabags and now she is as usual and healthy
and sleeps well at night." The Tablets
may be obtained by medicine dealers or by mail
from the following: J. C. Williams,
1011 Columbia St., St. Paul, Minn.; J. C. Williams,

Prices . . \$3, \$2 & \$1. Booking at MOUTRIE'S
Curtain 9.15 p.m. sharp.

BEST CARS IN THE COLONY FOR HIRE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

S. KAWATTI, Manager.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

WATSON'S PYERIS.

An exact reproduction of a well-known Spa at half the price.
Blends perfectly with Spirits, especially Whisky.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing,
Drink deep or touch not the Pyerian Spring.
There shallow draughts intoxicate the Brain
And drinking deeply sobers us again."—Pope.

Pints \$1.00 Per Doz.
Splits 50 Cts.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,
AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.
TEL. 436.

To-day's Advertisements

HONGKONG CLUB NOTICE

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the **LARGE DINING ROOM** on **FRIDAY**, the 17th May, 1918, at 5.30 p.m.
Business:—To confirm the Resolution passed on the 18th inst. as posted in the Hall of the Club.

By Order
E. DES VŒUX,
Secretary.

Hongkong, May 17, 1918. 431

FOR SALE.

PEARL PIN-CRAVAT: Photo-appar. Kodak Catridge No. 4 with Dopp. Anst. Coetz. Ladies' Panama Hats. Apply from 12-3 p.m. King Edward Hotel, Room 66. 439

FOR SALE.

50-PEARL THREAD-NECKLACE and **25-PEARL EARRINGS.** Apply from 12 to 7 p.m. Room 66, King Edward Hotel. 439

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (for account of the consignor), on

WEDNESDAY,

the 22nd May, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vœux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,
A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF HOUSEHOLD LINENS, &c.

Comprising:—
Single and Double Plain and Hemstitched Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bed Quilt, Table Cloth, Pure-Linen Damask Serviettes, Bath Sheets, Bath Towels, Turkish Towels, Blankets, &c., &c.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
Terms:—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, May 17, 1918. 432

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TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, BRASS AND TEAK TWIN BEDSTEADS, CURTAINS, CARPETS, &c., &c.

AND AN ASSORTMENT OF **USEFUL HOUSEHOLD GOODS,** As follows:—

Arm-chairs and Chesterfield Sofas (new), Card Tables, Upholstered Suites, &c., Bedroom Furniture, comprising Double Brass and Brass-mounted Bedsteads, Teak Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinners, Wiegans, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, &c., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Sets, &c., Bath Room Utensils, Sundry Electro-Plated Ware.
Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, Blackwood Furniture, including large Blackwood Green Side Tables, Chairs, Cabinets, &c., &c., Mirrors, Pictures, Kinkosan and Brass Yases, &c., &c., Tennis Poles and Net, Iron Safes, Several Carpets, &c., &c.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
Terms:—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, May 17, 1918. 433

A. TACK & CO.

A Consignment of

KODAKS AND FILMS

Just received by the
"EMPEROR OF RUSSIA"

26, Des Vœux Road, Central

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The first Tank week in Shanghai brought in a total of £408,855. A Chinese Tank week is to be inaugurated.

A Chinese editor who recently went to Chefoo committed suicide by jumping overboard, leaving a note saying that he could not bear to see his country controlled by Japan.

A correspondent sends to a Tientsin paper the following note about the state of things in Shenai near the Yellow River: "We live as on the edge of a crater, fighting and killing going on round about us. Koochies' followers behaving like wild beasts. All the well-to-do people live in the greatest terror and are constantly robbed. The Yellow River is closed or only thousands would take refuge in Shenai."

The writer of the London letter in the *Birmingham Post* recently wrote: At the moment there is, I learn, a deal of speculation in Far Eastern shipping circles here concerning the intentions of more than one British company regarding traffic on the Chinese rivers. A line which maintains a service between Hongkong, Canton and Wuchow, and is partly British-owned, has sold its four steamers to a Chinese syndicate, and these will be handed over as soon as permission for the transfer is granted. This transaction has attracted considerable attention in China, and a report to the Department of Commerce at Washington the American Consul at Hongkong has directed special attention to it. From the beginning of Chinese trade with the outer world Wuchow, which is now the centre of a large mining, agricultural, and stock raising district, has been peculiarly within the control of British interests, and in well-informed quarters it is feared that the sale of these steamers indicates a weakening of our shipping control.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The death occurred in Shanghai on Saturday of Mrs. Hawks Pott, wife of Dr. Hawks Pott.

Lieut. Kenneth Hansell, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Hansell who, after a very long residence in Kobe, recently removed to Hankow, has been killed in action.

The death is announced of Mr. John Darrah, who was for some years American Postmaster in Shanghai. The deceased was 44 years of age, and leaves a widow and a daughter aged 12, to mourn his loss.

Alien enemy businesses in the Philippine Islands are now being sold by public auction. The Companies Mercantile, a Filipino concern, made the highest bid for the assets of Froelich and Kuttner, viz Pesos 1,484,000.

Mr. W. H. Price, of Tokyo, was recently found dead in his house. Mr. Price was a resident in Japan of some twenty years' standing, during the greater part of which time he was connected with the China and Japan Trading Co. For many years he was stationed at Nagasaki but lately removed to Tokyo, where he joined the American Trading Co.

Among residents of the Colony who are leaving to-morrow are the following: Dr. O. Mariotti, Dr. Woodman, Messrs. R. H. B. Hancock, D. V. Stevenson, T. Dallin, A. M. Preston, J. Bentley, P. H. Cobb, E. Carmichael, C. M. W. Reynolds, F. E. Joseph, A. Edwards, H. T. Heath, L. Allister, J. Jennings, G. P. Bond, A. H. West, J. Dekin, W. J. Carr, F. H. Taylor, G. Green, W. G. Clark, T. Sutherland, G. J. Chambers, K. M. Fetterley, A. E. Furber, H. H. Pegg, J. A. Howe, R. S. Vergetta, E. B. Lambert, W. Pryde, F. Pereira, J. E. Ewing, J. Ralston and J. C. Fletcher.

The death is announced at Southern of Vice-Admiral William Osborne Moore, an eminent naval surveying officer who commanded H.M. surveying vessels in Australia, South Pacific, China, and home waters. The triangulation extending along the coast of China, for many hundreds of miles was, perhaps, one of his most notable achievements. On triangulation the existing coast charts are based, thereby enabling the earlier surveys of that long line of coast to be brought into conformity. He was the commander of H.M.S. *Porpoise* on the China Station from 1885 and from 1890 to 1893 he commanded H.M.S. *Porpoise* in Australia and China, and his services were rewarded in 1899 by promotion to the rank of Captain. In 1906 he was given the command of the home survey ship H.M.S. *Porpoise*, which he commanded until his death.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

The thirty-fourth ordinary meeting of the above Company was held at the offices of Messrs Jardine, Matheson and Co. to-day at noon.

The Hon. Mr. David Landale presided and there were present the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. F. Shollin, Mr. H. P. White, Mr. E. J. Chapman (Consulting Committee) and Mr. Lee (Secretary), Capt. Douglas, Capt. Clark, Messrs. C. W. Bewick, E. Perry Smith, E. N. D. Parr, P. C. Potts, G. Grimble, E. M. Raymond, Ho Fook, G. Haxton, Lau Chang Shui, Chan Sui Ki, Lo Man Hui and Chui Shi Mar, shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN requested the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting and when this was done, he said:—Gentlemen, This is the fourth occasion on which your General Agents and Consulting Committee have had to report to you the progress and experience of the Company under war conditions. These conditions create problems and difficulties in many respects quite different from the cases that naturally arose from the ordinary path of marine insurance, and it is interesting to note what capacity the business has shown for adapting itself to these strange and twisted times. The Reports of practically all Companies—all of those I have had an opportunity of perusing—disclose a very substantial rise in the premium income. This is not, of course, so obvious where the management does not undertake war risks, but where, as in our case, war risks form an important, and as we think necessary part of our activities, this enhancement in premium income becomes very marked. It is quite evident that these larger figures must throw upon the clerical assistance of the Companies great demands, as well as adding to the cares of management, and it is I think wonderful how these demands have been replied to, bearing in mind the national calls for man service, which have been met and met so well. It is hardly possible to over-estimate the additional dangers which have arisen to confront our business. The unexampled demands upon shipping have led to the removal of steamers from their regular run, and their replacement by steamers frequently of a vastly inferior type. Accumulations of cargo occur at transshipment centres causing a congestion of liability which it is impossible to control, and the increase of the perils of the sea and on the seas cannot be measured. It is remarkable that these conditions should have been without so well—for our own successful experience is, I am glad to say, not unique—and that this branch of our national business—this national insurance—has continued to prove so sound. Indeed in the realm of all the older branches of insurance, fire, life, and marine, British enterprise enjoys in the wealth and long established undertakings, whose names are almost household words everywhere, a position that is unequalled. Another circumstance, with which Companies like our own established on a silver basis have had to contend is the rise in the price of exchange. This is the second year we have had to place our figures before you with a drop in the value of gold profits of twenty-five per cent—fifty per cent in two years. We fortunately, some years ago realised that since the Company obviously had in the future to make its investments largely in gold—to increase its gold assets—our safeguard lay in creating gold liabilities, and the wisdom of establishing a gold Reserve Fund and the other steps taken at that time are very apparent in the balance sheet before you. A further echo of the war is the shrinkage in the values of securities. We have had again to write down values which on 31st December 1914 had already been heavily written down, and my own view is that the necessity will probably again appear. Five per cent is a very fine rate of interest to get for first class securities, compared any way with pre-war days, but it has a very depressing effect upon three and a half per cent and four, and I personally cannot see either now, or on the declaration of peace, the slightest prospect of a revival in the price of such securities. We have, as you will note, a fund of over £25,000 to provide for further depreciation, and so we ourselves can think, face this possible demand with equanimity.

Gentlemen, I have briefly alluded to some of the dangers and difficulties confronting our business at the present time, and the moral which I draw, and which I think must also be obvious to you, is the necessity, so obvious as war lasts and these difficulties exist, of conserving our position and adding to our funds. It is this which prevents your Consulting Committee from feeling justified in advocating an increase in the dividend which a superficial examination of the Balance Sheet might tempt one to do and it must not be forgotten that the maintenance of the dividend at the level of the last two years constitutes an increased tax on the profits of a Company such as this, which terms a large portion of its income in securities having a gold standard. Shareholders in Hongkong should be reminded that the dividend is not a gift, but a return on their investment.

The dividend of £250,000 paid in May 1916 cost £23,968. The same dividend paid in May 1917 cost £23,947 and the dividend to be declared to-day costs £27,500 taking in each case the rate of exchange at which the figures are taken in the Balance Sheet. Gentlemen, You will notice that in 1917 we made on your behalf a contribution to War Charities of \$5,000, and when an appeal recently came round again the Office made a donation of \$10,000 which will be shown in 1918 Account, and I have no doubt you will thoroughly approve of this. (Applause.) I do not think there is anything else in the Accounts to which I need make special reference. I trust you will approve of our funding of the Sterling Reserve Fund at £200,000—the appropriation to Underwriting Suspense Account is of course a necessity of the business—and I can only conclude with the hope that the very favourable prospects which the 1917 Account offers may be fulfilled. I have assumed that you would permit me to take the Report and Accounts as read, and I now therefore formally propose:—That the Report and Accounts as presented, including the payment of a final dividend in respect of the year 1916 of 7 per share, and of an interim dividend in respect of the year 1917 of 818 per share, the addition of £20,000 to the Sterling Reserve Fund; and of \$336,160.63 to the Underwriting Suspense Account be adopted and passed.

Mr. E. V. D. PARKIN seconded said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—It gives me much pleasure to rise for the purpose of seconding the motion for the adoption of the Report and Accounts. You have alluded to the difficulties which confront marine underwriting at the present time, and it is very evident that the losses which have befallen the Mercantile Marine during the period covered by the Accounts caused by the ruthless methods of a barbarous foe must have added enormously to the difficulties of making underwriting estimates, and it is therefore I think highly creditable to the management, and a matter which should cause them the liveliest satisfaction to terminate the work of such a year with so good a result—(applause). The figures for 1917 are very encouraging and the ease with which the dividend is maintained places the shares of the Company in the forefront of stable and reliable investments. It is very satisfactory to see that the provision for dealing with the effect of exchange upon our figures has proved adequate in spite of the fluctuations having varied to an extent that it was hardly possible to contemplate, and the wisdom which placed the necessary tax upon former good years, and which has created so substantial an Underwriting Suspense Account fill us with confidence that our interests are in good hands. Gentlemen, I also think a word of thanks is due to the Staff, many members of whom, will no doubt, in the present anxious time, prefer to be in the front fighting in the defence of our Country. These gentlemen may rest assured that they are carrying on the work of the Empire by remaining at their posts until such time as they are notified by the proper authorities that their services are required in the fighting line. I support, as I am sure all shareholders do, in the heartiest manner the contributions which the Office has made to War Charities, and I conclude with an expression of congratulation to the General Agents and Consulting Committee on the result they have achieved.

The motion was carried unanimously. Capt. DOUGLAS proposed and Mr. P. C. POTTS seconded the re-election of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. E. Shollin, and Messrs. E. J. Chapman, H. P. White, C. S. Gubbay and Sir Robert Ho Tung, on the Consulting Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. G. K. HAXTON proposed and Mr. C. W. BEWICK seconded that Messrs. H. Perry Smith P.C.A. and A. E. Lowe, P.C.A. be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.

This motion was also carried unanimously. The CHAIRMAN then announced that dividend warrants were ready and could be had on application.

This terminated the business of the meeting.

THE CHINA BORNEO CO., LIMITED.

The fifteenth yearly meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at the offices of the Company, this morning, at 11 o'clock.

Mr. A. O. Lang presided, and there were present the Hon. Sir Paul Chater C.M.G., Mr. A. E. Griffin and Mr. W. G. Darby (Consulting Committee), and Mr. A. Kaset (Secretary) and Messrs. T. E. Pearce, R. L. Bridger, O. Baptista, L. Y. Po, W. L. Kait and E. Sayce.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, with your permission we shall take the Report and Accounts together with the Auditor's Certificate as read.

When addressing you last year, I pointed out that difficulties of tonnage then existing would preclude the Company from enjoying any degree of prosperity till conditions should become normal. Since then the question of obtaining freight has become still more acute, our business with the United Kingdom has now entirely ceased and our facilities for shipping from Borneo to China have been reduced to one third of what they were during 1917. Under these circumstances, I can assure you that the dividend is not a gift, but a return on their investment.

The dividend of £250,000 paid in May 1916 cost £23,968. The same dividend paid in May 1917 cost £23,947 and the dividend to be declared to-day costs £27,500 taking in each case the rate of exchange at which the figures are taken in the Balance Sheet. Gentlemen, You will notice that in 1917 we made on your behalf a contribution to War Charities of \$5,000, and when an appeal recently came round again the Office made a donation of \$10,000 which will be shown in 1918 Account, and I have no doubt you will thoroughly approve of this. (Applause.) I do not think there is anything else in the Accounts to which I need make special reference. I trust you will approve of our funding of the Sterling Reserve Fund at £200,000—the appropriation to Underwriting Suspense Account is of course a necessity of the business—and I can only conclude with the hope that the very favourable prospects which the 1917 Account offers may be fulfilled. I have assumed that you would permit me to take the Report and Accounts as read, and I now therefore formally propose:—That the Report and Accounts as presented, including the payment of a final dividend in respect of the year 1916 of 7 per share, and of an interim dividend in respect of the year 1917 of 818 per share, the addition of £20,000 to the Sterling Reserve Fund; and of \$336,160.63 to the Underwriting Suspense Account be adopted and passed.

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The motion was carried unanimously. Capt. DOUGLAS proposed and Mr. P. C. POTTS seconded the re-election of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. E. Shollin, and Messrs. E. J. Chapman, H. P. White, C. S. Gubbay and Sir Robert Ho Tung, on the Consulting Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. G. K. HAXTON proposed and Mr. C. W. BEWICK seconded that Messrs. H. Perry Smith P.C.A. and A. E. Lowe, P.C.A. be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.

This motion was also carried unanimously. The CHAIRMAN then announced that dividend warrants were ready and could be had on application.

This terminated the business of the meeting.

THE PEAK TRAMWAYS CO., LTD.

The ordinary annual general meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at the Hongkong Hotel, to-day at noon.

Mr. Henry Humphreys presided and there were present the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. D. Landale and Mr. C. S. Gubbay (Directors), and Mr. G. Rapp (Secretary), and Messrs. M. S. Northcott, J. M. Wong, D. E. Clark, W. Morley and J. A. Tarrant.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, I propose with your permission to take the Report and Statement of Accounts and Auditors' Certificate as read.

The Accounts before you are an improvement on the last two years notwithstanding the increased prices we have had to pay for nearly everything. The item which for many years figured in the accounts under the heading of mortgage F.B.E. 80 has now disappeared, the mortgage having been paid off in October last. The item on the debit side of Profit and Loss Account, Depreciation on Investments, represents the amount we have had to write off to bring our investments down to Market prices. In this connection I may mention that market prices on 30th April were in all cases extremely low, and the loss is to some extent counterbalanced by the unusually large amount on the credit side of Profit and Loss under the heading of Interest and Dividends received. I am glad to say that the Donor to War Charities of \$2,000.00 will meet with your approval, and also the proposed dividend of 10 per cent.

With these few remarks I now beg to propose the adoption of the Report and Accounts as presented and after they have been seconded I shall be pleased to answer, to the best of my ability, any questions which Shareholders may desire to put.

Mr. W. D. KRAFT seconded, and in doing so, congratulated the Directors on the satisfactory Report and Accounts and also, on behalf of the shareholders, expressed regret that Mr. Darby was resigning, saying that as they all knew, Mr. Darby had rendered valuable services to the Company.

The motion was carried. Mr. E. L. BARBER seconded, and Mr. W. G. DARBY seconded, the re-election to the Consulting Committee of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., and the motion was carried.

Mr. O. BARTHA seconded, and Mr. T. E. PEARCE seconded, the re-election of Mr. C. E. Bernard Brown, A.C.A., as auditor for the ensuing year at a remuneration of £250 and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that Dividend Warrants were ready and could be had on application and the meeting terminated.

This terminated the business of the meeting.

THE MAGISTRACY.

THEFT BY AN APPRENTICE.

A Chinese youth, employed as an apprentice to a tanner, was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball this morning, with the theft of a quantity of leather valued at \$30, the property of his master.

It was stated that there was a great quantity of leather missing and the theft was only discovered when the stock was checked. Defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE ME.

A Chinese, pleaded not guilty when charged before Mr. Wood this morning, with the theft of a jacket.

Complainant said that the jacket, which he left out to dry on a bamboo outside his house, was stolen by the defendant. The theft was observed and the defendant was arrested.

Defendant said it was raining at the time and seeing the jacket on the bamboo outside the house, he removed it with the intention of returning it to its owner. His thoughtfulness was misconstrued by a passerby who arrested him.

The man who arrested the defendant said he saw him removing the jacket and taking it away.

His Worship sentenced the defendant to one month's hard labour.

WANTED TO GO TO VANCOUVER.

Seven Chinese pleaded guilty when charged before Mr. Wood this morning, with being stowaways on board a steamer.

Mr. P. Goldring, for the defendants, said he hoped his Worship would let his way to impose a small fine.

An officer from the steamer said the authorities on the steamer knew nothing of the stowaways until they reached Vancouver when the Immigration Authorities informed them. A systematic search of the ship resulted in the discovery of the defendants. A member of the crew who was guilty of conniving at their concealment was left behind in Vancouver to be dealt with by the Immigration Authorities and the defendants were taken into the Immigration shed. This was the last he saw of them until yesterday when they were returned to Hongkong by another steamer.

Mr. Wood sentenced the defendants to three months' hard labour each.

A SEVERE REBUKE.

A Chinese was charged on remand, before Mr. Wood this morning, with the theft of a jacket.

At a previous hearing the defendant, who pleaded not guilty, alleged that the evidence against him was false and that he was a victim of a conspiracy. Inspector Sim, who conducted the investigation of the case, said that morning that he found that the defendant's story was true and that there was a further witness who could corroborate defendant's story.

Mr. Wood severely reprimanded the Indian constable and warned him that if he gave false evidence again he would be punished.

The defendant was discharged.

A GOOD RULE FOR THE HOME.

MAKE a rule of your home to always keep on hand a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which is infallible against all complaints. It is a good rule to keep in all Chinese and European homes.

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TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

FURTHER AMERICAN LOANS TO ALLIES.

THE CLAUSE DELETED.

WASHINGTON, May 15. Mr. McAdoo has authorized the following additional loans: To Great Britain \$200,000,000; to France \$100,000,000; to Italy \$100,000,000; making a total to all Allies of \$5,794,000,000.

THE RUSSIAN BLACK SEA FLEET.

GERMAN DEMAND FOR ITS SURRENDER.

PARIS, May 15. A Moscow telegram says that, replying to the German demand for the immediate surrender of the Russian Black Sea Fleet to the Germans at Sebastopol, M. Tchitcherine says the Russian Government is prepared to consent to the return of the Fleet to Sebastopol, provided that the limits of the Austro-Turkish occupation of Russia, and also the frontiers of Ukraine and Finland are definitely specified, that hostilities on Russian territory immediately cease, and that the Austro-Turkish forces completely evacuate Sebastopol.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

A TERRIBLE PICTURE OF DISTRESS.

LONDON, May 15. The Agram newspaper *Glas Sloboda* draws a terrible picture of distress in Bosnia and Herzegovina where it is worse even than in Galicia and Bukovina. Whole districts have been depopulated and devastated, as by a typhoon. Numerous inhabitants who were deported have died in internment camps. Those remaining were massacred by Austrian soldiery or died of starvation. The deaths exceeded the births by 5,000 in 1915, and 23,711 in 1916, this mortality not including those fallen on the battle-field. The whole of the livestock was destroyed or consumed by the Army and it is impossible to cultivate the ground owing to the absence of oxen.

The attempt of the Vienna authorities to sow discord among the Yugoslavs by forming a new political group in Bosnia with the object of promoting the creation of a new Great State has failed hopelessly.

THE RUMANIAN PEACE.

Jassy, May 15.

The official announcement of the signature of the Peace Treaty mentions the dissolution of Parliament and that the Peace Treaty will be submitted for ratification to the new Parliament assembling on June 17th.

AMSTERDAM, May 15. The Germano-Rumanian Commercial Agreement abolishes third party customs preferences, and provides for the construction of telegraphic and telephone systems whereby Rumania will be brought in closest touch with Berlin.

THE NEW AUSTRO-GERMAN ALLIANCE.

Zurich, May 15.

A Vienna telegram states that the new Austro-German Alliance is fixed for a term of twenty years, with a military convention and the closest economic and customs relations.

PRUSSIA AND EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

AMSTERDAM, May 15.

The Prussian Lower House has passed the third reading of the Reform Bill but with the clause granting equal suffrage deleted. Progressives Poles and Social Democrats opposed the emancipated Bill.

The Minister, Herr Friedberg, declared that the Government would employ all constitutional means to carry equal suffrage which the House had previously rejected by 286 votes to 155. If equal suffrage was not accepted within a definite period, the House would be dissolved.

NELSON LINER WRECKED.

London, May 15.

The 7,000-ton Nelson liner *Hesperus* has been wrecked off Rio de Janeiro.

NINETEEN COUNTRIES AT WAR WITH GERMANY.

London, May 15.

In the House of Commons, replying to a question, Mr. Balfour showed that altogether nineteen countries had declared war against Germany, since August, 1914, while the following countries have broken off diplomatic relations: Bolivia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti, San Domingo, Costa Rica, Peru, Uruguay and Ecuador.

THE BONNET ROUGE TRIAL.

THE SENTENCES.

Paris, May 15.

In the Bonnet Rouge trial, Duval, the manager, who received huge sums from enemy sources, has been sentenced to death.

Six other accused have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from two years and six months.

The concluding stage of the Bonnet Rouge trial of seven persons charged with defunct propaganda was noteworthy for the appearance of the ex-Premier Caillaux, who was called to answer one question. The President curtly allowed him five minutes, but Caillaux, who was faultlessly dressed and was very cool, remained in the box for forty minutes. He denied that he financially supported the newspaper *Bonnet Rouge* since the war and he concluded by remarking that he had preserved documents which might be useful to the judicial authorities.

GERMANS EVACUATE AALAND ISLANDS.

Stockholm, May 15.

The Germans evacuate the Aaland Islands on May 23rd. Finnish troops are already replacing them.

ITALIAN DESTROYERS ATTACK ENEMY CONVOY.

Rome, May 15.

Italian destroyers attacked an enemy convoy bound for Durazzo and sank a transport.

LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN GOING TO AMERICA.

London, May 15.

It was announced at an anti-conscription conference in Dublin that the Foreign Office has issued a passport to the Lord Mayor of Dublin to proceed to America.

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE IRISH SECRETARY.

London, May 15.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Herbert Samuel asked: Is any change contemplated in the status or functions of Chief Secretary for Ireland?

Mr. Bonar Law replied: There is no change in constitutional position, but in view of the present situation in Ireland, the Viceroy will exercise to a greater extent than has recently been customary the full responsibilities attaching to his office.

Replying to a further question, Mr. Bonar Law said the Viceroy and the Chief Secretary, while not members of the War Cabinet, would have the equivalent of Cabinet rank.

DUTCH INDIES SHIPPING TO AMERICA.

THE HAGUE, May 15.

The Governor-General of Dutch East Indies reports that shipping to America has been resumed. Export licences are now being issued for goods of which the export is prohibited.

OBITUARY.

London, May 15.

The death is announced of the Duke of Northumberland.

U.S. HAS 1,900 SHIPS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.

The Paris representative of the Shipping Board stated that 1,900 vessels are being built in the United States, of which 200 are being constructed in California, with a monthly payroll of \$10,000,000, soon to be \$15,000,000. At one yard recently three big steel ships were launched the same day.

This achievement is unequalled in shipbuilding. These three are ready to proceed overseas with 9,000 tons of wheat to Europe. Three more vessels will be launched from the same yard on July 2. The plant employs 7,000 men, whereas it only employed 250 a few months ago.

200 BEING BUILT IN CALIFORNIA.

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EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

HEAVY ENEMY ATTACK ON BRITISH REPULSED.

LONDON, May 14.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—

After heavy artillery preparation the enemy attacked on a mile front south-westward of Morlaucourt and entered our positions at one point. The Australians immediately counter-attacked and drove out the enemy, completely re-establishing the line.

The attack was repulsed at other points with heavy loss. We took 30 prisoners, our casualties being very light.

The French in local fighting repulsed an enemy attack in the direction of Kleinviestraat.

BAD WEATHER HAMPERS THE ENEMY.

DECLINING MORALE OF THE GERMANS.

LONDON, May 14.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, reporting to-day, states:—

The heavy rainfall of the past twenty-four hours must have seriously impeded the German plans and operations. The enemy is now confronted with the same conditions on the Flanders and Somme battle-fields which heavily handicapped our former offensive operation. We know definitely that in many places he is having a really bad time. This knowledge enables our soldiers to bear their share of discomfort with cheerful equanimity. While communications everywhere are good and supplies abundant and regular the Germans have, in some places, to founder across wide tracts of slush with brimming shell craters.

With intimate knowledge of this country our batteries register to a nicety upon the most vulnerable points. Again and again the enemy has to abandon roads which are impassable or too deadly. His losses, too, from ammunition dumps blown up are probably heavy.

All this is having an appreciable effect upon the morale of the Germans, whose boasting has become mere parrot-like repetition, without a deal of conviction. Two-thirds of the allotted span wherein the Germans were to end the war has passed. A reaction has set in and they must be beginning to understand that the additional menace of America is serious for them.

Following a heavy bombardment the enemy launched an infantry attack against the French positions and captured Hill 44, north of Kemmel, but it was only a minor affair. The German raid opposite Morlaucourt last night failed. A number of them were killed and 48 were taken prisoners, which is considerably more than our casualties, the future was regarded as partly in the lap of the weather; the Germans are experiencing really different weather: from the fine conditions which favoured them during the preparation for their great push.

The most important feature of last week's fighting in Flanders was the perfect Anglo-French staff unity. Here is a typical example: A French Divisional Commander said "I call the British artillery to put a thousand shells into a certain German position. The reply comes: We are giving them 1500." Both the French and the German planned an attack for the morning of the 8th. The French Division with the co-operation of the British artillery captured Compiègne, eastwards of La Clytte. The British Divisional Commander was then advised that an enemy attack was coming on Hill 44. The Germans came on in the proportion of three to one seeking the point of liaison in the Franco-British line. They signally failed in this but compelled our line to fall back on the stream called Viverbeek where the advance stopped. The Germans never reached their first objective to cross the stream. The second objective was the town of Dikbeek. The attack all day was held up at Broek. At 7 p.m. the Franco-British troops counter-attacked, recapturing almost all the ground lost earlier in the day. The straightening of the Franco-British line necessitated the recapture of Hill 44, which operation was carried out on the 11th inst. by a battalion of French infantry who, after a long fight drove off two German battalions and captured five officers and 100 men, as well as a large number of machine-guns. British artillery again contributed to the success.

SUCCESSFUL BRITISH RAID.

LONDON, May 16.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—

We repulsed an attempted raid northward of Lens.

We successfully carried out a raid north-east of Robecq.

Howitzers were active during the night in the Somme and Ancre valleys and northward of Bethune and Nepele Forest. There was also increased activity this morning south-westward of Morlaucourt and northward of Kemmel.

ALWAYS RECOMMEND IT.

AMERICA'S SHIPPING PROGRAMME.

WASHINGTON, May 15.

Eight steel ships totalling 48,150 tons were completed and fourteen vessels aggregating 57,100 tons were launched in the week ending May 11, thus the first million tons of ships delivered to the United States Government under the direction of the Shipping Board have been put on the high seas, and over half the total tonnage has been delivered since January 1.

The monthly production has steadily increased.

PRUSSIAN DIES REJECTS EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

AMSTERDAM, May 15.

The Prussian Diet has rejected by 238 to 185, a motion favouring equal suffrage, moved on 25th October of the third reading of the Prussian Bill.

TERRIFIC ARTILLERY DUEL ON FRENCH FRONT.

ENEMY UNCEASINGLY HARRASSED.

London, May 14.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, reporting to-day, states:—

The lull in the fighting on the Franco-British front is marked by a steady increase in the severity of the artillery duel which on our side often swells to terrific proportions. The roads behind the German front, the villages and cross roads, are constantly and systematically swept by *raids* of great shells, owing to which the enemy has the utmost difficulty in keeping his firing line supplied with food and munitions. The road leading to their front is strewn with smashed wagons, dead horses and corpses. The infantry holding the front are subjected to a still more terrific battering. A single French Division in last week's operations fired thousands of shells from their guns, giving the Germans little opportunity to entrench. Such chances as they have are shallow and offer a minimum of protection. Work is only possible at night, and the trench when dug is often detected and wrecked by gun-fire next morning. Positions on Mont Kemmel, the highest point of the German line, received the heaviest punishment and the Kemmel region is already a maze of shell craters like the worst parts of the Somme and Verdun battle-fields. The old British shelters on Kemmel are useless from the German viewpoint because they are all dug on the west side of the mountain with the opening facing the mouths of our guns. The eastern slope, on which the Germans are now trying to organise themselves, is probably the most dangerous and difficult corner on the front.

FINANCING THE WAR.

NO ANXIETY FOR THE FUTURE.

London, May 14.

In the House of Commons, during the Finance Bill discussion, Mr. Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said the question of raising money at present did not cause him serious anxiety. The big loan floated in January last year realised a thousand millions sterling of new money, while the War Bonds started last October and the War Savings Certificates had produced £719,000,000 to April 1—(Cheers).

He was not in the least despondent about getting the required money in this way, despite the recent falling off in subscriptions. A step was being considered for the stimulation of such form of subscription.

The discussion showed that the Budget was well received.

Mr. Bonar Law did not indicate any modification of the new duties.

UNITED CONTROL OF SUPPLIES.

NEW BOARD TO BE ESTABLISHED.

LONDON, May 14.

The *Daily News* states that the Government has decided to establish a Board to secure united control of supplies including food, munitions, raw materials, oils and timber.

The Board will comprise representatives of the Board of Trade, the Food Ministry, the War Office and the Wheat and Sugar Commissions.

THE EMPEROR KARL'S PEACE LETTERS.

LIGHT ON THE FRENCH REPLIES.

LONDON, May 14.

The *Manchester Guardian's* Correspondent at Paris gives what he says is almost a literal rendering of passages in President Poincaré's reply to the first letter of the Emperor, Karl regarding peace, as follows:—"Prince Sixte is commissioned to tell Emperor Karl as regards the latter's declarations about Alsace-Lorraine that it is not a question for us of the Alsace-Lorraine of 1871. What France asks for is the Alsace-Lorraine of 1790 with the valley of the Saar, restitutions, reparations, indemnities and guarantees on the left bank of the Rhine."

The Emperor Karl's second letter, dated May 9, was the reply to this. The Correspondent adds: M. Briand, in his evidence before the Foreign Relations sub-Committee, gave the impression that he disapproved of the way President Poincaré and M. Ribot received the Austrian proposals; also of M. Clemenceau's action in publishing the Emperor Karl's first letter. The reason why some of the other Allies were not consulted in the matter of the Austrian proposals was that the latter were strictly confidential.

NEW VESSELS COMPLETED.

AMERICA'S SHIPPING PROGRAMME.

NEW VESSELS COMPLETED.

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NEW VESSELS COMPLETED.

THE MILLION DOLLAR OPIUM CASE.

GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS CRIMINAL CHARGE.

REPLY TO CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

In Mr. Wood's Court, this afternoon,

the Attorney General, on behalf of the Government, asked leave to withdraw the criminal charges brought against the defendants in the civil case, now known as the "Million Dollar Opium Case."

The Attorney General said—Your Worship. In view of the judgment of the Supreme Court in the civil case which was finally delivered on the 14th inst., the Crown propose to withdraw this charge. This case would have come on yesterday morning but for the fact that, as I understand, Your Worship found that it would be more convenient that it should come on this afternoon. Both sides naturally fell in with this arrangement. I mention this because I want to make it clear that the Crown were prepared to withdraw the charge yesterday morning.

I feel that it is my duty on behalf of the Government to refer to one other matter. On the 14th instant my learned friend Mr. Potter, as reported in the South China Morning Post of the 15th instant, made the following statement with reference to this case:—

"It was the public of Hongkong knew the position of the Government and had made clear, once and for all because Government had not only seen fit to make itself responsible for the costs of the action, but had intervened and arrested the defendants' on precisely the same charges."

His Lordship was investigating. In other words, an effort was made to stop a proper ventilation of these issues and an examination of them in the proper civil court and to substitute therefor criminal proceedings."

This is a complete mis-statement of the position. It is not true that an effort was made to stop a proper ventilation of these issues and an examination of them in the proper civil court and to substitute therefor criminal proceedings."

As pointed out by Mr. Potter himself in another part of the very same statement, judgment was about to be given against the Plaintiff by default because the Plaintiff had no funds to continue the action. If the Government had not intervened, the ventilation of the issues by the Civil Court would have been stopped, owing to lack of funds and for no other reason, and it is entirely incorrect to suggest that the object of the Government was to stop that ventilation and examination.

As the civil action was about to be dismissed part heard, without any proper investigation of the issues having been possible, the Government proceeded to institute criminal proceedings against the defendants. The Government were practically obliged to institute these proceedings in view of the very serious charges of fraud and forgery which had been brought to their notice.

There intention was to proceed with the prosecution forthwith and it was only in deference to the views expressed by their Lordships the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judge that the criminal proceedings should remain in abeyance until the Civil action was concluded, that the Government eventually decided to accept responsibility for the future costs of the Official Receiver.

Since the Government's intervention a period of no less than nine months has been occupied in the ventilation and examination of the issues which were then before the Court. It was the Government's intervention which secured that ventilation and examination and the Defendants themselves professed to welcome the intervention, because of the opportunity that it would give them of clearing themselves.

Mr. Potter set out in his statement to inform the public of the position of the Government and I think it only right to point out that the information which he gave them, given of course in all good faith, was entirely inaccurate. Whatever inferences he may seek to draw from what was done, I can assure him there never was any desire to stop a proper ventilation and examination of the issues in the proper civil court, and the facts are clearly opposed to any inference to the contrary.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster, on behalf of the accused, said it was his duty to the defendants in the civil action, who, for the best part of four years had been the victims of what had been the most important case of blackmail that had ever been brought to light in the Colony, to see that their case should be fully stated. The two defendants were very prominent business men in the Colony and they were originally directors of the Yee Hong Bank, which was incorporated in April 1912.

Mr. Alabaster then went to give a lengthy résumé of the details of the Civil case which has been reported by the *China Mail* from time to time and concluded by quoting portions of Mr. Justice Gompertz' judgment in that case, on Tuesday last, dwelling on the manner in which that judgement entirely cleared Mr. Chee Leung and Lee Hysan. Counsel thought it fair that since the charges had been made that his statement should be made public on behalf of the defendants.

Mr. Wood: Have you anything further to say, Mr. Attorney General?

The Attorney General: No, Your Worship.

Mr. Wood: Until this afternoon, I have purposely avoided going into the merits of the case and until Mr. Alabaster made his statement to-day, I really did not know what the exact facts on the evidence were. Mr. Alabaster has made this statement and has cleared the Attorney General. He has not seen fit to make any comment on my remarks for this Court to discharge the defendants.

I add, however, that the defendants, the Plaintiff says, have been discharged.

HONGKONG WAR BONDS DRAWING PRIZES.



PRIZES.

The sale of tickets has proceeded so satisfactorily that the Committee is now able to indicate a provisional allocation of the 3 big prizes and the 100 smaller prizes.

The prizes given below are, as already advised, subject to the amount available for distribution being the sum of \$500,000.

In this event:—

WAR CHARITIES WILL RECEIVE	Approximately
1st prize	\$125,000
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3rd prize	56,200
2 prizes of \$10,000 each (approx)	37,500
2 prizes of \$7,500 each	20,000
2 prizes of \$5,000 each	15,000
2 prizes of \$2,500 each	10,000
7 prizes of \$1,000 each	5,000
10 prizes of \$700 each	14,000
15 prizes of \$400 each	6,000
15 prizes of \$300 each	4,500
24 prizes of \$200 each	4,800
15 prizes of \$100 each	1,500
103 prizes	\$500,000

The closing date for sale of tickets is 12th June and the number of tickets now available for sale is rapidly becoming less; therefore if you have not bought all the tickets you require, it is advisable to hurry up and tell your friends to do likewise.

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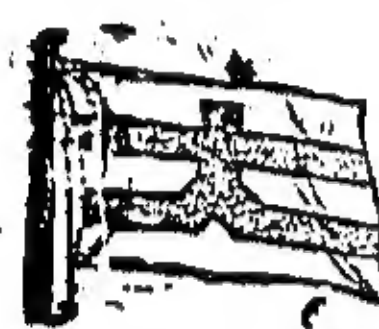
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FAN EASTERN INSURANCE CO.

The first annual general meeting of the Fan Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd., which began business on November 1, 1917, was held at Shanghai on the 7th inst. There were present Messrs. Edward I. Ezra (Chairman), E. T. Byrne and V. Meyer, directors, Mr. W. S. Jackson, general manager, and Mr. H. H. Read, secretary pro tem, and a representative number of shareholders, 17,614 shares of the 30,000 paid-up being represented. It is stated in the report that the final call of 10 per share, on the 30,000 shares issued, was paid on January 23 and the paid-up capital of the company now stands at Tls. 600,000 with a nominal capital of Tls. 1,000,000.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant.

ATTENDANCE.

To 978 Pte. S. T. Williamson was enrolled on 15.1.18 and posted to "A" Company, No. 2 Platoon.
To 977 Pte. T. W. Doyle was enrolled on 15.1.18 and posted to the Mounted Section.
To 978 Pte. F. M. Johnson was enrolled on 15.1.18 and posted to "A" Company, No. 2 Platoon.
To 279 Pte. J. J. P. C. O'Connell was enrolled on 15.1.18 and posted to "A" Company, No. 2 Platoon.
To 279 Pte. J. J. P. C. O'Connell was enrolled on 15.1.18 and posted to "A" Company, No. 2 Platoon.

TRANSFERS.

No. 313 Pte. J. W. Stackhouse and No. 313 Pte. J. H. Brister, "A" Company, are transferred to the Machine Gun Company, dated 10th May, 1918.

POSTING.

2nd Lieutenant R. Sutherland is posted to No. 3 Platoon (in command) during the absence on leave of Lieutenant C. W. Bewick.

LEAVE.

Lieut. C. W. Bewick is granted 4 months leave on Medical Certificate, from 18.5.18. The leave notified in Corps Order No. 4, dated 22.4.18, is hereby cancelled.

Pte. J. Findlay Miller is granted leave from 22.5.18 to 6.6.18 on Medical Certificate. The leave notified in Corps Order No. 3, dated 1.3.18, is hereby cancelled.

Sergeant R. Henderson, Artillery, is granted 6 months leave on Medical Certificate, from 11.5.18.

Sergeant B. W. Grey, "D" Coy., is granted 6 months leave on Medical Certificate, from 11.5.18.

Corporal H. T. Jackson, "B" Coy., is granted 3 months leave on Medical Certificate, to date from day of departure.

Pte. A. G. Coppin, "B" Coy., is granted 4 months leave on urgent business affairs, from 20.5.18.

Pte. D. G. M. Bernard, "A" Coy., is granted 6 months leave on Medical Certificate, to date from day of departure.

Pte. V. L. A. Fairley, "D" Coy., is granted 6 months leave on Medical Certificate, from 18.5.18.

Pte. A. H. Skelton, "B" Coy., is granted 6 months leave on Medical Certificate, from 18.5.18.

Pte. L. D. McNeill, "A" Coy., is granted 3 months extension of leave, from 12.4.18.

Pte. W. H. Smith, "B" Coy., is granted 3 months extension of leave on Medical Certificate, from 10.5.18.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Orders issued by Mr. F. C. Jenkins, D.S.P. (R.).

CAPES.

Members of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies not yet in possession of capes will attend at Headquarters Club on either Tuesday, May 21st or Wednesday, May 22nd, between the hours of 8.30 and 9 p.m. Uniform optional. Equipment officers will attend.

ACTIVE SERVICE.

P.C. 422 W. J. O'Carroll is granted leave for the duration of the War.

JOINED.

No. 9 Platoon, P.Cs. 479 Kwaz Shabomed, 478 Umra and 480 Zardad.

By Order,

T. F. HOGAN, A.S.P. (R.) and Adjutant.

THE CALENDAR.

MEMO FOR TO-MORROW.
3.15—Frayley Co. open at the Theatre Royal, Play: "It Pays to Advertise".

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

Monday, May 20.
Whit Monday: Bank Holiday.
3.15—Frayley Co. at the Theatre.
Tuesday, May 21.
3.15—Frayley Co. at the Theatre.
Wednesday, May 22.
Noon—Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., Yearly Meeting.
12.30 p.m.—China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., Yearly Meeting.
12.45 p.m.—British Traders Insurance Co., Ltd., Yearly Meeting.
Friday, May 24.
3.15—Frayley Co. at the Theatre.
3.15—Frayley Co. at the Theatre.
3.15—Frayley Co. at the Theatre.

HONGKONG MARKET PRICES.

Butcher Meat.

Beef Sirloin—Malung Pa	lb. 24
Prime Cut	lb. 24
Cornd—Ham Ngau Yuk	lb. 24
Roast—Shiu	lb. 24
Brast—Ngau Nam	lb. 24
Soup—Tung Yak	lb. 24
Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa	lb. 24
Steak Sirloin—Ngau Lak	lb. 24
Sausages—Ngau Cheung	lb. 24
Bullock's Brain—No. 1	lb. 24
Bullock's Brain—No. 2	lb. 24
Tongue, fresh—Ngau Li each	lb. 24
Tongue, cured—Ham Ngau Li	lb. 24
Head—Ngau Tan	lb. 24
Heart—Ngau Sam	lb. 24
Hump—Ngau Kin	lb. 24
Feet—Ngau Kung	lb. 24
Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	lb. 24
Tail—Ngau Mei	lb. 24
Liver—Ngau Kon	lb. 24
Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To	lb. 24
Cat's Head and Feet—Ngau Tai	lb. 24
Mutton Chop—Young Pei Kwai	lb. 24
Leg—Young Pei Kwai	lb. 24
Shoulder—Young Pei Kwai	lb. 24
Saddle—Young Pei Kwai	lb. 24
Pig's Chittings—Chu Chong per set	lb. 24
Brains—Chu No	lb. 24
Feet—Chu Kung	lb. 24
Fry—Chu Chap	lb. 24
Head—Chu Tan	lb. 24
Heart—Chu Sam	lb. 24
Kidneys—Chu Yiu	lb. 24
Liver—Chu Kon	lb. 24
Pork Chop—Chu Pui Kwai	lb. 24
Leg—Chu Pei	lb. 24
Loins—Chu Hau Tan	lb. 24
Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	lb. 24
Sheep's Head and Feet—Young	lb. 24
Tau Kung	lb. 24
Heart—Young Sam	lb. 24
Kidneys—Young Yiu	lb. 24
Liver—Young Kon	lb. 24
Sucking Pig, to order—Chu Tai	lb. 24
Sheep, Beef—Shang Ngau Yau	lb. 24
Mutton—Shang Ngau Yau	lb. 24
Vand—Ngau Tai Yuk	lb. 24
Sausages—Ngau Tai Chan	lb. 24
Lard—Chu Yau	lb. 24

Vegetables, &c.

Artichokes—Ah Chi Cheuk	each 10
Beans, Sprout—Nga Toi	lb. 4
Long—Tau Kok	lb. 4
Beet Root—Hung Tai Tai	lb. 4
Bitter Squash—Fu Kwa	lb. 4
Brinjals, Green—Ching Yau Kwa	lb. 4
Red—Hung Ka	lb. 4
Cabbage Chinese (common)	lb. 4
Kai Toi	lb. 4
Shanghai—Ye Toi	lb. 4
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shau	lb. 4
Canliower (Large)—Ye Toi Falcch	lb. 4
(Medium)	lb. 4
(Small)	lb. 4
Carrots—Kam Shun	lb. 4
Celery, Chinese—Tung Kai Toi	lb. 4
Chickies, Dried—Kau Lai Chia	lb. 4
Red—Hung Fa Chia	lb. 4
Green—Ching Lai Chia	lb. 4
Carry Staff, English—Ka Li Chu Lin	lb. 4
Cucumbers—Ching Kwa	lb. 4
Garlic—Sun Tai	lb. 4
Ginger, young—Sun Tai Keung	lb. 4
Ginger, old—Lo Keung	lb. 4
Horseradish, Shanghai—Lik Kai	lb. 4
Indian Corn—Shuk Mai	lb. 4
Lettuce—Young Shing Toi	lb. 4
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	lb. 4
Mandarins—Kwai	lb. 4
Lam Ma Tai	lb. 4
Mushrooms, Fresh—Shang Tau Ka	lb. 4
Onions, Green—Shang Chung Tai	lb. 4
Onions, Shanghai—Shang Kai	lb. 4
Onions, Bombay—Young Chung Tai	lb. 4
Parsley—Kau Tai	lb. 4
Potatoes, Sweet—Fau Shu	lb. 4
Pumpkin—Tung Kwa	lb. 4
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tai	lb. 4
Rhubarb (Fresh)—Tai Wong	lb. 4
Shallots—Kong Chong Tai	lb. 4
Spinach—Tin Tai	lb. 4
Tomatoes—Fan Ka	lb. 4
Taro—Wu Tai	lb. 4
Turnips, Fench, (Long)—Lo Pak	lb. 4
Vegetable Marrow—Tai Kwa	lb. 4
Water Cress—Sai Young Toi	lb. 4
Lily root—Lin Ngau	lb. 4
Yams—Tai Shu	lb. 4

Fish.

Barbel—Ka Yu	lb. 19
Bream—Pin Yu	lb. 20
Canton Fresh Water Fish	lb. 18
Hoi Siu Yu	lb. 16
Carp—Li Yu	lb. 18
Codfish—Chik Yu	lb. 12
Codfish—Mun Yu	lb. 12
Crabs—Hoi Yu	lb. 18
Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu	lb. 16
Dab—Sha Mang Yu	lb. 23
Dace—Wong Mei Lap	lb. 10
Dog Fish—Tie To Shap	lb. 10
Red, Conger—Hoi Man	lb. 16
Fresh water—Tam Shui Yu	lb. 26
Yellow—Wong Siu	lb. 26
Frogs—Tin Kai	lb. 32
Garoupa—Shek Pan	lb. 40
Gudgeon—Pak Kap Yu	lb. 18
Herring—Tio Pak	lb. 12
Habitat—Choung Kwan Kap	lb. 22
Leitrus—Wong Fa Yu	lb. 22
Loach—Wu Yu	lb. 22
Loach—Lung Ha	lb. 22
Macaroni—Chi Yu	lb. 22
Monk Fish—Mung Yu	lb. 22
Mullet—Tui Yu	lb. 18
Oysters—Shang Ho	lb. 18
Parrot Fish—Kai Kung Yu	lb. 14
Pike—Pa Pau Fong	lb. 16
Plaice—Pan Yu	lb. 26
Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong	lb. 26
Pomfret, White—Pak Chong	lb. 26
Prawns—Ming Ha	lb. 36
Ray—Pai Pa Shu	lb. 10
Rock Fish—Shek Kan Kung	lb. 13
Roach—Chun Yu	lb. 26
Salmon—Ka Yu	lb. 36
Shark—Siu Yu	lb. 10
Skate—Fu Yu	lb. 10
Shrimps—Ha	lb. 26
Skipper—Lap Yu	lb. 26
Sole—Tat Shu Yu	lb. 26
Tench—Wan Yu	lb. 26
Turbot—Tio Hau Yu	lb. 18
Turtles, small, fresh water	lb. 40
Kau Yu	lb. 40

Poultry.

Chicken—Kai Tai	lb. 30
Capon, mall—Sin Kai	lb. 28
Capon, Large—Sin Kai	lb. 28
Duck—Ap	lb. 28
Duck—Pau Kau	lb. 28
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tai (cooking) per doz.	18
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tai (fresh) per doz.	25
Fowls, Canton—Kai	lb. 36
Fowls, Hainan—Hoi Nari Kai	lb. 28
Geese—Ng	lb. 24
Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kap	lb. 30
Hothow—Hoi Has Pak Kap	lb. 28
Turkeys, Cook—Fo Kai Kung	lb. 60
Turkeys, Raw—Fo Kai Kung	lb. 60
Snipe—Shu Tai	lb. 22
Snipe—Shu Kai	lb. 22
Quail—On Chum	lb. 22
Partridges—Che Ka	lb. 22

FRUITS.

Almonds—Hang Yau	lb. 30
Apples, California—Kam Shan	lb. 24
Apples, China—Kam Shan	lb. 24
Bananas, (Grain's), Macao—San	lb. 4
Bananas, (Grain's), Hong Kong	lb. 4
Oranges—Yung To	lb. 12
Oranges—Yung To	lb. 12
Lemons, China—Kam Shan	lb. 24

FARES FOR PUBLIC VEHICLES.

CHAIRS.

Quarter hour	10 cents
Half hour	20
One hour	30
Three hours	70
Six hours	100
Day (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)	\$1.00
If the trip is extended beyond Victoria, half fare extra.	
Between the hours of 8.30 p.m. and 6 a.m. the above fares shall be increased by 50 per centum.	
II.—Beyond Victoria, with four Bearers.	
Hour	\$1.00
Three hours	1.50
Six hours	2.00
Day (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.)	2.00

III.—In the Hill District.

Quarter hour	\$0.15
Half hour	0.30
One hour	0.40
Two hours	0.60
Three hours	0.70
Six hours	1.00
Day (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)	1.50

TICKETS.

Ten minutes	5 cents
Quarter hour	10
Half hour	15
One hour	20
Every subsequent hour	20
Note.—If the tickets be engaged within the City of Victoria, and be discharged outside the Western part of the City of Victoria after 8 p.m. or be discharged to the East of Bay View Police Station on the Eastern side of the City of Victoria after 8 p.m., an extra half fare shall be chargeable.	
II.—In Kowloon.	
Quarter hour	5 cents
Half hour	10
One hour	15
Every subsequent hour	10

III.—Taipei Road.

Quarter hour	5 cents
Half hour	10
One hour	15
Every subsequent hour	10
Note.—Twenty cents shall be added for each extra hour or part of an hour if the hirer causes the journey to take longer than:	
To 4th mile—75 cents—1 hour.	
single return—1.00—3 hours.	
Beyond 4th to 6th mile—	
single—1.20—3 hours.	
return—1.50—4 "	
Beyond 6th to 8th mile—	
single—1.75—2 1/2 "	
return—2.00—3 "	
Beyond 8th to 11th mile—	
single—2.00—3 "	
return—2.50—4 "	
Fares for journeys beyond the 11th mile to be a matter of previous arrangement in each case.	
The fares here set out to apply to one ticket with three conies from Taim Shu Tai.	

FARES FOR PUBLIC CARRIAGES.

From Slaughter House to Ballroom House	Not exceeding 04 cents.
From Slaughter House to Government Civil Hospital	04
From Government Civil Hospital to Clock Tower	04
From Clock Tower to Race Course	10
From Clock Tower to Bay View House	12
From Wanchai Market to Bay View House	08
From Bay View House to Quarry Bay	08
II.—In the City of Victoria.	
Quarter hour	10 cents.
Half hour	20
One hour	30
Two hours	50
Three hours	60
Four hours	70
Five hours	80
Six hours	90
One day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	\$1.25

III.—Beyond Victoria.

One hour	25 cents.
Two hours	45
Three hours	60
Four hours	75
Five hours	90
Six hours	100
One day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	\$1.50
If a vehicle is discharged beyond the limits of the City of Victoria half fare extra is to be allowed for the return journey.	
IV.—In Kowloon.	
Quarter hour	5 cents.
Half hour	10
One hour	15
Two hours	30
Three hours	40
Four hours	50
Five hours	60
Six hours	70
One day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	\$1.00
Between the hours of 8.30 p.m. and 6 a.m. the above fares shall be increased by 50 per centum.	

HONGKONG REGISTER.

Barometer	29.77	29.70	29.73
Temperature	81	79	80
Humidity	81	87	89
Direction of Wind	SSW	SSW	SW
Force	2	4	2
Weather	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rain	0.00	0.00	0.02

THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER.

EVER ISSUED UNDER PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

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Six hours	100
Day (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)	\$1.00
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Six hours	1.00
Day (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)	1.50

TICKETS.

Ten minutes	5 cents.
Quarter hour	10 "
Half hour	15 "
One hour	20 "
Every Subsequent hour	20 "

Note.—If the ricksha be engaged within the City of Victoria, and be discharged outside the Western part of the City of Victoria after 2 p.m., or be discharged to the East of Bay View Police station on the Eastern side of the City of Victoria after 9 p.m., an extra half fare shall be chargeable.

II.—In Kowloon.